REMARKS

The claims are 1-7.

The above amendment cross-references the parent application.

Further, present claims 1-7 differ from claims 1-7 of the parent application in the thickness reduction being in the range of 0.15 - 0.20 nm/second.

Support for this feature is evident from page 14, line 3 from the bottom of the present specification.

This range of film thickness reduction avoids the rejection of claim 1 over the Nitta et al. reference cited in the parent application.

In this regard, Applicants calculated the rate of film thickness reduction in the Examples of Nitta to obtain a value of 0.23 nm/second assuming a film thickness retention of 98% (TABLE 1) and other numerical values disclosed in the Examples of Nitta et al.

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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